

MEMORANDUM NO: 091-11HR  
TO: Agency Administrators  
FROM: Bobbie Chappell, Director of Human Resources  
VIA: Rip Colvin, Executive Director  
RE: 2011 JR Justice Award Program

This is a reminder that all 2011 JRJ Applications are due to the Florida Department of Education by December 31, 2011. Please ensure that all pertinent documents are provided, signed, and dated as applicable. We appreciate your prompt attention to ensure a smooth and expedited process.

You may recall that the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs approved Florida's application for funding under the FY 11 John R. Justice (JRJ) Grant program in the amount of \$244,351.

Please note there were several changes to the Loan Repayment Application, Agency Guide and Eligibility Calculation Sheet for the FY 2011 award period. Notably, one major change requires State and Federal public defenders and state prosecutors to be employed for at least twelve consecutive months with a qualifying entity to be eligible. Also, on the calculation sheet, the AMAGI increased from \$100,000 to \$125,000 as a factor for determining an applicant ineligible. In addition, the minimum funding level per agency changed from \$1,000 to \$500. These are a few of the major changes; so, please review all documents carefully to ensure compliance.

Congress enacted the John R. Justice Prosecutors and Defenders Incentive Act, codified at 42 U.S.C. §3797cc-21, and named for the late John Reid Justice of South Carolina, to encourage qualified attorneys to choose careers as prosecutors and public defenders and to continue in that service. Student loan debt is consistently cited as the overwhelming reason why attorneys decline or leave positions as prosecutors and public defenders. The John R. Justice (JRJ) Grant Program provides loan repayment assistance for local, state, and federal public defenders and local and state prosecutors who commit to continued employment as public defenders and prosecutors for at least three years. The JRJ Program is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) is the State Administering Agency.

If you have additional questions, Public Defenders may contact Elaine Fletcher at 850-410-5230; State Attorneys may contact Debby Terfinko at 850-410-5245; or you may contact Marlene Norrell, Educational Program Director, Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance at 850-410-5238.

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